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Pastor's War On Presidio --'Brutality'

By Jack Viets

A San Francisco minister threw Presidio brass into an uproar over the weekend by personally serving an extraordinary restraining order forbidding brutality against a private awaiting a court martial there.

And—the Rev. Raymond Broshears of St. Timothy's Orthodox Episcopal Church at 26 Seventh street here told The Chronicle yesterday—he is preparing more legal papers against even more ranking officers, especially those responsible for conditions at the Special Processing Detachment.

This is a holding facility, primarily for AWOL soldiers awaiting trial, located adjacent to the Presidio stockade:

CHARGE

Anyone who gets out of line at the facility is usually "taken outside and into the woods and worked over," the Rev. Mr. Broshears said.

"But Friday night, they had a riot right inside the Special Processing Detachment between 70 military policemen and about 60 holdees, as the Army calls them."

A Sixth Army spokesman, although confirming that the Rev. Mr. Broshears had served a restraining order, said "our people have had no reports of a riot."

At 9:45 a.m. Saturday, the Rev. Mr. Broshears — carrying a restraining order signed by Federal Judge Gerald E. Levin — appeared on the grounds of the Presidio and began attempting to serve it, a job normally

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handled by U.S. marshals.

Officers at the Special "How can a minister do this?" the Rev. Mr. Broshears said he was asked. "How can you?"

When the legal officer, Captain Steven Carlotti, arrived in his tennis shorts, the Rev. Mr. Broshears told The Chronicle, he repeatedly screamed: "What's this s---? What's this s---?"

"You have broken all military etiquette, all military procedure," the reverend said he was told.

ACCEPTED

But the reluctant legal officer — after being shown an order by Judge Levin allowing the restraining order to be served by someone other than a marshal — finally accepted it.

The order, which the Rev. Mr. Broshears and attorney William Flenniken obtained at 4:25 p.m. Friday, restrains the Army from "assaulting, beating, harassing or torturing" Private Paul McArdle, 19, either mentally or physically.

Named in the extraordinary order, the Rev. Mr. Broshears said, are Lieutenant General Stanley Larson, Commanding General of the Sixth Army, Colonel Guy de Young, commandant of the Presidio, various stockade and special processing detachment officers and enlisted men.

REPORT

Private McArdle, a slight, thin Britisher ("Everything is bloody to Paul," the Rev. Mr. Broshears said) telephoned the minister September 12 to report he had been severely beaten by a sergeant and two other enlisted men, all MPs.

"He said he was knocked out and when he came to the sergeant was sitting on his back holding him around the throat with a stranglehold. And another one was hitting or kicking him in the kidneys," the Rev. Mr. Broshears said.

The young private told the minister he enlisted in the Army two months after he arrived in the United States, in July, 1967, so he could become an U. S. citizen. But, after a marriage and a divorce, he went AWOL from

Fort Knox, Ky., some three months ago.

Private McArdle, who turned himself in to Presidio authorities in early August, apparently has been getting "the treatment" at the processing detachment facility because he carries a Bible, the Rev. Broshears said.

"He said one captain told him, you're trained to carry a f--- rifle and not a sissy-sucking Bible."